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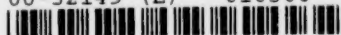
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29 February 2000
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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 28 FEBRUARY 2000 FROM THE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 27 February 2000 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. The Minister calls attention to the continuing attacks on Iraq by United States and British aircraft and to the bombing of civilian installations between 15 and 21 February 2000 in which more civilians were injured and serious damage was done to the installations in question, and he urges you to intervene with the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom with a view to halting acts of aggression that are in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex

Identical letters dated 27 February 2000 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Further to my letter of 21 February 2000 (S/2000/144, annex), I should like to inform you that United States and British aircraft have been continuing their armed sorties against northern and southern Iraq and that they have bombed Iraqi civilian installations, causing further suffering to civilians and killing and terrorizing them. Details of violations committed by United States and British aircraft during the period from 15 to 21 February 2000 are given hereunder.

1. In the northern region 64 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1135 hours on 15 February 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Irbil and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1430 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1050 hours on 19 February 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho, Ayn Zalah and Aqrah areas. The aircraft bombed a number of civilian installations, wounding three civilians. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1250 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1150 hours on 20 February 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho, Ayn Zalah, Aqrah and Baibo areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1450 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1100 hours on 21 February 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho, Ayn Zalah and Aqrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1400 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 189 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1050 hours on 15 February 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory

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penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 26 missions, 18 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and eight from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Basrah, Artawi, Lasaf, Busayyah, Jalibah, and Qurnah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1200 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1445 hours on 16 February 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 32 missions, 20 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Lasaf, Qurnah, Samawah, Basrah, Ashbajah, Jalibah, Chabaish,, Taqtaqanah West, Amarah and Qala't Salih areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1610 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1245 hours on 17 February 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 48 missions, 26 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 22 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Lasaf, Qurnah, Samawah, Basrah, Ashbajah, Jalibah, Taqtaqanah, Amarah, Qal'at Sukkar, Artawi, Busayyah, Najaf, Ali al-Gharbi, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Shaykh Sa'd, Kut, Hayy, Salman, Shinafiyah, Diwaniyah and Afak areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1540 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 0850 hours on 18 February 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 41 missions, 19 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 22 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Basrah, Ashbajah, Jalibah, Artawi, Nasiriyah, Salman, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah and Afak areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1000 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1350 hours on 19 February 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 36 missions, 28 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and eight from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Basrah, Ashbajah, Artawi, Nasiriyah, Salman, Lasaf, Afak, Qurnah, Diwaniyah, Kut, Qal'at Salih and Taqtaqanah West areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1540 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 1715 hours on 20 February 2000, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out six missions with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Lasaf, Ashbajah, Nukhayb and Taqtaqanah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1750 hours, drove them off.

The ongoing United States and British aggression against a steadfast Iraq has come to constitute their fixed policy for the achievement of their political objectives aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. By the most elementary standards of international intercourse, the declared policy of the leaders of the two countries in question constitutes flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and all the principles of international law affirming that the use or threat of use of force against the integrity or independence of any State must be rejected.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq condemns these criminal actions against Iraqi civilian targets and installations, and we urge you to intervene with the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom with a view to inducing them to halt, bring to an end and desist from any future repetition of such actions.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq, reserving in full its inalienable right to take the measures necessary to defend the inviolability and sovereignty of Iraq's territory and the security of its people, demands compensation for all the losses it has sustained in human, material and moral terms as a result of these actions, in accordance with the principle of international responsibility.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq
